

Estimation risk for the VaR of portfolios driven by semi-parametric multivariate models

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Risk of portfolios

- A large strand of the recent literature on quantitative risk management has been concerned with **risk aggregation**.
- For a vector of one-period P&L random variables $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_m)'$, risk aggregation concerns the risk implied by an aggregate financial position defined as a real-valued function of \mathbf{y} .
- Under the terms of Basel II, banks often measure risk of an aggregate position through the **Value-at-Risk (VaR)** of $\mathbf{a}'\mathbf{y} = a_1y_1 + \dots + a_my_m$ where the a_i 's define the composition of a portfolio.
- Exact calculation of the risk associated with an aggregate position can represent a difficult task, as it may require **knowledge of the joint distribution** of the components of \mathbf{y} .

Conditional risk

- In a dynamic framework, one has to evaluate the **conditional risk** of a portfolio of assets or returns.
- The current regulatory framework for banking supervision (Basel II, III) allows international banks to develop internal models for the calculation of risk. The so-called **advanced approaches** are based on conditional distributions.

Objectives

● Setup:

- the vector of individual returns y_t follows a general dynamic model.
- A portfolio of assets with **time-varying composition** a_{t-1} .
The composition can be both time-varying and stochastic: investors may rebalance their portfolios at time t using the information contained in the historical prices.

● Aims:

- Estimate the conditional risk of the portfolio (**market risk**).
- Evaluate the accuracy of the estimation (**estimation risk**):
⇒ quantify simultaneously the **market** and **estimation** risks.
- Compare **univariate** and **multivariate** approaches.
 - Crystallized portfolios;
 - Optimal (conditional) mean-variance portfolios;
 - Minimal VaR portfolios.

Risk factors

- $\mathbf{p}_t = (p_{1t}, \dots, p_{mt})'$ vector of prices of m assets
- $\mathbf{y}_t = (y_{1t}, \dots, y_{mt})'$ vector of log-returns, $y_{it} = \log(p_{it}/p_{i,t-1})$
- V_t value of a portfolio composed of $\mu_{i,t-1}$ units of asset i , for $i = 1, \dots, m$:

$$V_t = \sum_{i=1}^m \mu_{i,t-1} p_{it}$$

- **Self-financing constraint:** At time t , the investor may rebalance his portfolio in such a way that

$$\mathbf{SF} \quad \sum_{i=1}^m \mu_{i,t-1} p_{it} = \sum_{i=1}^m \mu_{i,t} p_{it}$$

Return of the portfolio

Under SF, the return of the portfolio over the period $[t-1, t]$, assuming $V_{t-1} \neq 0$, is

$$\frac{V_t}{V_{t-1}} - 1 = \sum_{i=1}^m a_{i,t-1} \exp(y_{it}) - 1 \approx r_t$$

where

$$r_t = \sum_{i=1}^m a_{i,t-1} y_{it} = \mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \mathbf{y}_t,$$

with

$$a_{i,t-1} = \frac{\mu_{i,t-1} p_{i,t-1}}{\sum_{j=1}^m \mu_{j,t-1} p_{j,t-1}}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m,$$

and $\mathbf{a}_{t-1} = (a_{1,t-1}, \dots, a_{m,t-1})'$, $\mathbf{y}_t = (y_{1t}, \dots, y_{mt})'$.

Conditional VaR of the portfolio's return

The *conditional* VaR of the portfolio's return r_t at risk level $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ is defined by

$$P_{t-1} \left[r_t < -\text{VaR}_{t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r_t) \right] = \alpha$$

where P_{t-1} denotes the historical distribution conditional on $\{\mathbf{p}_u, u < t\}$.

Consequence

Evaluation of the conditional VaR can be achieved by a

- **Multivariate approach:**
dynamic model for the vector of risk factors \mathbf{y}_t
- **Univariate approach:**
dynamic model for the portfolio's return r_t

Dynamic model for the vector of log-returns

Multivariate model with GARCH-type errors:

$$y_t = \mathbf{m}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t, \quad \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)\boldsymbol{\eta}_t$$

where $\boldsymbol{\eta}_t \stackrel{iid}{\sim} (\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_m)$, $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\mathbf{m}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) = \mathbf{m}(y_{t-1}, y_{t-2}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta}_0), \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}(y_{t-1}, y_{t-2}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta}_0).$$

► Examples of MGARCH

Thus

$$r_t = \mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \mathbf{m}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) \boldsymbol{\eta}_t,$$

and

$$\text{VaR}_{t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r_t) = -\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \mathbf{m}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \text{VaR}_{t-1}^{(\alpha)}(\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) \boldsymbol{\eta}_t).$$

A simplification for elliptic conditional distributions

$$\epsilon_t = \mathbf{m}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)\boldsymbol{\eta}_t, \quad (\boldsymbol{\eta}_t) \text{ iid } (\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_m),$$

Assume that the errors $\boldsymbol{\eta}_t$ have a **spherical distribution**:

A1: for any non-random vector $\boldsymbol{\lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $\boldsymbol{\lambda}'\boldsymbol{\eta}_t \stackrel{d}{=} \|\boldsymbol{\lambda}\|\eta_{1t}$

where $\|\cdot\|$ is the euclidean norm on \mathbb{R}^m .

Remark: means that the conditional law of ϵ_t is **elliptic**.

Under **A1**

$$\text{VaR}_{t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r_t) = -\mathbf{a}'_{t-1}\mathbf{m}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \|\mathbf{a}'_{t-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)\| \text{VaR}^{(\alpha)}(\eta),$$

where $\text{VaR}^{(\alpha)}(\eta)$ is the (marginal) VaR of η_{1t} .

Assumption on the conditional variance model

B1: There exists a continuously differentiable function $G: \mathbb{R}^d \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$ such that for any $\theta \in \Theta$, any $K > 0$, and any sequence $(x_i)_i$ on \mathbb{R}^m ,

$$K\Sigma(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots; \theta) = \Sigma(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots; \theta^*), \quad \text{and}$$

$$m(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots; \theta) = m(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots; \theta^*)$$

where $\theta^* = G(\theta, K)$.

VaR parameter for an elliptic conditional distribution

At the risk level $\alpha \in (0, 0.5)$, the conditional VaR of the portfolio's return is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{VaR}_{t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r_t) &= -\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \mathbf{m}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \text{VaR}_{t-1}^{(\alpha)}(\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) \boldsymbol{\eta}_t) \\ &= -\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \mathbf{m}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \|\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)\| \text{VaR}^{(\alpha)}(\eta) \\ &= -\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \mathbf{m}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0^*) + \|\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0^*)\|, \end{aligned}$$

where, under **B1**,

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}_0^* = G(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0, \text{VaR}^{(\alpha)}(\eta)).$$

The parameter $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0^*$ can be called **conditional VaR parameter**.

Remark: The conditional VaR parameter

- does not depend on the portfolio composition
- summarizes the risk at a given level

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 - Relaxing the ellipticity assumption
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Estimating the conditional VaR parameter

- Observations: $\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n$ (+ initial values $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_0, \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{-1}, \dots$).
- $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n$: estimator of $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0$
- $\tilde{\mathbf{m}}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{y}_{t-1}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_0, \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{-1}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta})$
 $\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}(\mathbf{y}_{t-1}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_0, \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{-1}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta})$
- Residuals: $\hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_t = \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t^{-1}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n) \{\mathbf{y}_t - \tilde{\mathbf{m}}_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n)\} = (\hat{\eta}_{1t}, \dots, \hat{\eta}_{mt})'$.

Under the sphericity assumption,

$$\widehat{\text{VaR}}_{S,t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r) = -\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \tilde{\mathbf{m}}_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n) + \|\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n)\| \widehat{\text{VaR}}_n^{(\alpha)}(\eta)$$

where $\widehat{\text{VaR}}_n^{(\alpha)}(\eta) = \xi_{n,1-2\alpha}$

is the $(1 - 2\alpha)$ -quantile of $\{|\hat{\eta}_{it}|, 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq t \leq n\}$.

Assumptions

A2: (y_t) is a strictly stationary and nonanticipative solution.

A3: We have $\hat{\theta}_n \rightarrow \theta_0$, a.s. and the following expansion

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0) \stackrel{op(1)}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{t=1}^n \Delta_{t-1} V(\eta_t),$$

where $\Delta_{t-1} \in \mathcal{F}_{t-1}$, $V: \mathbb{R}^m \mapsto \mathbb{R}^K$ for some $K \geq 1$,
 $EV(\eta_t) = 0$, $\text{var}\{V(\eta_t)\} = \Upsilon$ is nonsingular and $E\Delta_t = \Lambda$ is full row rank.

A4: The functions $\theta \mapsto m(x_1, x_2, \dots; \theta)$ and $\theta \mapsto \Sigma(x_1, x_2, \dots; \theta)$ are \mathcal{C}^1 .

A5: $|\eta_{1t}|$ has a density f which is continuous and strictly positive in a neighborhood of $\xi_{1-2\alpha}$ (the $(1 - 2\alpha)$ -quantile of $|\eta_{1t}|$).

Asymptotic distribution

Asymptotic normality

$$\sqrt{n} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0 \\ \xi_{n,1-2\alpha} - \xi_{1-2\alpha} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} \mathcal{N} \left(\mathbf{0}, \Xi := \begin{pmatrix} \Psi & \Xi_{\theta\xi} \\ \Xi'_{\theta\xi} & \zeta_{1-2\alpha} \end{pmatrix} \right),$$

where $\Omega' = E \left\{ \text{vec}(\Sigma_t^{-1}) \right\}' \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta'} \text{vec}(\Sigma_t) \right\}$, $W_\alpha = \text{Cov}(V(\eta_t), N_t)$, $\gamma_\alpha = \text{var}(N_t)$, with $N_t = \sum_{j=1}^m \mathbf{1}_{\{|\eta_{jt}| < \xi_{1-2\alpha}\}} - 1 + 2\alpha$, and

$$\begin{aligned} \Xi_{\theta\xi} &= \frac{-1}{m} \left\{ \xi_{1-2\alpha} \Psi \Omega + \frac{1}{f(\xi_{1-2\alpha})} \Lambda W_\alpha \right\}, \quad \Psi = E(\Delta_t \Upsilon \Delta_t') \\ \zeta_{1-2\alpha} &= \frac{1}{m^2} \left\{ \xi_{1-2\alpha}^2 \Omega' \Psi \Omega + \frac{2\xi_{1-2\alpha}}{f(\xi_{1-2\alpha})} \Omega' \Lambda W_\alpha + \frac{\gamma_\alpha}{f^2(\xi_{1-2\alpha})} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Estimation of the asymptotic variance

- Most quantities involved in the asymptotic covariance matrix Ξ can be estimated by empirical means.
- The estimation of

$$\Omega' = E \left[\left\{ \text{vec}(\Sigma_t^{-1}) \right\}' \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}'} \text{vec}(\Sigma_t) \right\} \right]$$

can be delicate due to the presence of the derivatives of Σ_t .

▶ Example: linear SRE on the derivatives of H_t

Asymptotic normality of the VaR-parameter estimator

$$\text{VaR-parameter: } \boldsymbol{\theta}_0^* = G\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0, \text{VaR}^{(\alpha)}(\eta)\right)$$

A simple application of the delta method gives the asymptotic distribution of the estimator

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n^* = G\left\{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n, \widehat{\text{VaR}}_n^{(\alpha)}(\eta)\right\}.$$

VaR parameter

$$\sqrt{n}\left(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n^* - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0^*\right) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Xi}^* := \dot{G}\boldsymbol{\Xi}\dot{G}'\right)$$

with

$$\dot{G} = \left[\frac{\partial G(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \xi)}{\partial(\boldsymbol{\theta}', \xi)} \right]_{(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0, \xi_{1-2\alpha})}.$$

Evaluation of the estimation risk

$$\widehat{\text{VaR}}_{S,t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r) = -\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \tilde{\mathbf{m}}_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n) + \|\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n)\| \widehat{\text{VaR}}_n^{(\alpha)}(\eta)$$

An asymptotic $(1 - \alpha_0)\%$ confidence interval for $\text{VaR}_t(\alpha)$ has bounds given by

$$\widehat{\text{VaR}}_{S,t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r_t) \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \Phi_{1-\alpha_0/2}^{-1} \{ \boldsymbol{\delta}'_{t-1} \hat{\boldsymbol{\Xi}} \boldsymbol{\delta}_{t-1} \}^{1/2},$$

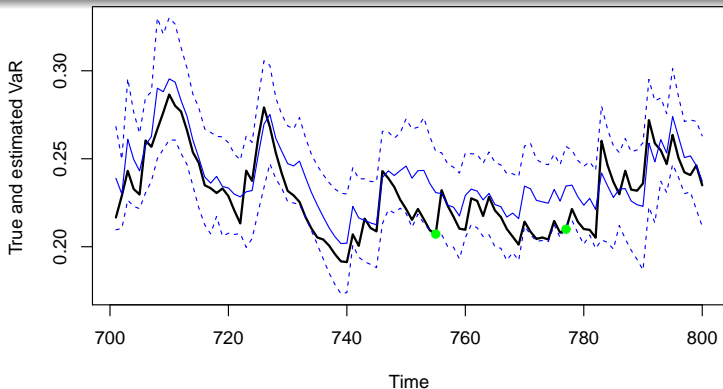
where

$$\boldsymbol{\delta}'_{t-1} = \left[\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{m}}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}'} + \frac{(\mathbf{a}_{t-1} \otimes \mathbf{a}_{t-1})'}{2 \|\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n)\|} \frac{\partial \text{vec} \tilde{H}_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}'} \quad \|\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n)\| \right],$$

with $\tilde{H}_t(\cdot) = \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t(\cdot) \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t'(\cdot)$.

Remark: The statistical estimation risk α_0 is not related to the financial risk α .

Accuracy intervals for the estimated conditional VaR



1%-VaR (**true** in full black line, **estimated** in full blue line) and estimated 95%-confidence intervals (dotted blue line) on a simulation of a fixed portfolio of a **bivariate** BEKK (700 values for the estimation of the VaR parameter).

CI's based on a conditional resampling scheme

To circumvent difficulties due to the estimation of the asymptotic variance Ξ , a bootstrap procedure can be developed.

Relies on the property:

$\|\boldsymbol{\eta}_t\|$ and $\boldsymbol{\eta}_t/\|\boldsymbol{\eta}_t\|$ are independent, the latter being uniformly distributed over \mathcal{S}^{m-1} .

Resampling scheme

- 1 Compute $\hat{\theta}_n = \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n)$, $\tilde{\eta}_t$, and $\widehat{\text{VaR}}_{S,t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r_t) =: \widehat{\text{VaR}}(r_t)$.
- 2 Generate independently, for $u = 1, \dots, n$,
 - vectors s_u^* uniformly distributed over \mathcal{S}^{m-1} .
 - vectors \tilde{U}_u^* , uniformly distributed on $(\tilde{U}_1, \dots, \tilde{U}_n)$. where $\tilde{U}_u = S_u^{-1/2}(\tilde{\eta}_u - \tilde{\eta})$,

Compute $\eta_u^* = \|\tilde{U}_u^*\| s_u^*$ and let

$$\mathbf{y}_u^* = \tilde{\mathbf{m}}_u^*(\hat{\theta}_n) + \tilde{\Sigma}_u^*(\hat{\theta}_n) \eta_u^*$$

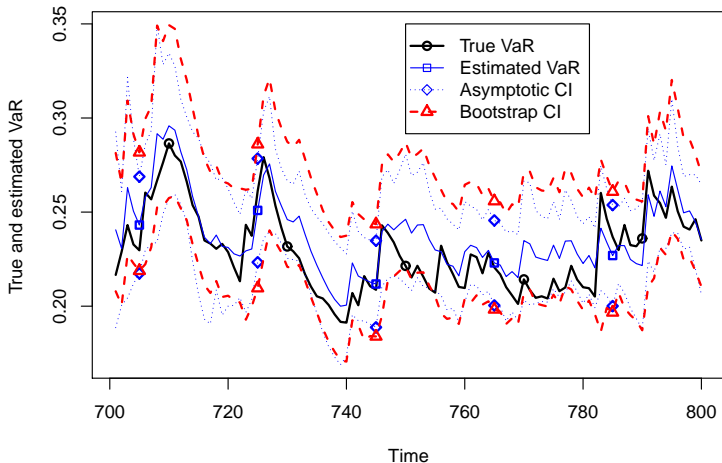
(where $\tilde{\mathbf{m}}_u^*(\hat{\theta}_n) = \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{y}_{t-1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{y}_1^*, \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_0, \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{-1}, \dots, \hat{\theta}_n)$, $\tilde{\Sigma}_u^*(\hat{\theta}_n) = \dots$)

- 3 Compute $\hat{\theta}_n^* = \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{y}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n^*)$, $\tilde{\eta}_u^* = \tilde{\Sigma}_u^{-1}(\hat{\theta}_n^*) \{\mathbf{y}_u^* - \tilde{\mathbf{m}}_u(\hat{\theta}_n^*)\}$ (where $\tilde{\mathbf{m}}_u(\hat{\theta}_n^*) = \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{y}_{t-1}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_0, \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{-1}, \dots, \hat{\theta}_n^*)$, $\tilde{\Sigma}_u(\hat{\theta}_n) = \dots$) and

$$\widehat{\text{VaR}}^*(r_t) = -\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \tilde{\mathbf{m}}_t(\hat{\theta}_n^*) + \|\mathbf{a}'_{t-1} \tilde{\Sigma}_t(\hat{\theta}_n^*)\| \xi_{n,1-2\alpha}^*$$

- 4 Repeat B times Steps 1-3, resulting in $\widehat{\text{VaR}}_1^*(r_t), \dots, \widehat{\text{VaR}}_B^*(r_t)$.

Accuracy intervals for the estimated conditional VaR



Confidence Intervals based on asymptotic results vs bootstrap.

- 1 General framework
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Filtered Historical Simulation (FHS) approach

Barone-Adesi et al. (J. of Future Markets, 1999), Mancini and Trojani (JFE, 2011)

Relies on

- i) interpreting the conditional VaR as the α -quantile of a linear combination (depending on t) of the components of $\boldsymbol{\eta}_t$:

$$\text{VaR}_{t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r_t) = \text{VaR}_{t-1}^{(\alpha)} \{b_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \mathbf{c}'_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)\boldsymbol{\eta}_t\}$$

where $b_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{a}'_{t-1}\mathbf{m}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ and $\mathbf{c}'_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{a}'_{t-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta})$.

- ii) replacing $\boldsymbol{\eta}_t$ by the GARCH residuals $\hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_s$ and computing the empirical α -quantile of the estimated linear combination.

$$\widehat{\text{VaR}}_{FHS,t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r) = -q_\alpha \left(\{b_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n) + \mathbf{c}'_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n)\hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_s, \quad 1 \leq s \leq n\} \right).$$

Remark: for each value of s , $b_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n) + \mathbf{c}'_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n)\hat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_s$ is a simulated value of the return r_t conditional on the past prices.

Notations and assumptions

Let $c : \Theta \mapsto \mathbb{R}^m$ and $b : \Theta \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ be \mathcal{C}^1 functions.

$\xi_\alpha(\boldsymbol{\theta})$: α -quantile of $b(\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbf{c}'(\boldsymbol{\theta})\boldsymbol{\eta}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta})$,

$\xi_{n,\alpha}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$: empirical α -quantile of $\{b(\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbf{c}'(\boldsymbol{\theta})\boldsymbol{\eta}_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}), 1 \leq t \leq n\}$.

Suppose $\xi_\alpha(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) > 0$ and $\mathbf{c}'(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)\boldsymbol{\eta}_t$ admits a density f_c which is continuous and strictly positive in a neighborhood of $x_0 = -b(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \xi_\alpha(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)$.

Asymptotic distribution

Estimator of the quantile of a linear combination of η_t

Under the previous assumptions (but without the sphericity assumption **A1**),

$$\sqrt{n}\{\xi_{n,\alpha}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n) - \xi_\alpha(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)\} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \sigma^2 := \boldsymbol{\omega}'\boldsymbol{\Psi}\boldsymbol{\omega} + 2\boldsymbol{\omega}'\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\mathbf{A}_\alpha + \frac{\alpha(1-\alpha)}{f_c^2(x_0)}\right),$$

where $\mathbf{A}_\alpha = \text{Cov}(V(\boldsymbol{\eta}_t), \mathbf{1}_{\{b(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) - \mathbf{c}'(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)\boldsymbol{\eta}_t < \xi_\alpha(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)\}})$,

$$\boldsymbol{\omega}' = \left[\mathbf{c}'(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)E(\mathbf{C}_t) - \frac{\partial b}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}'}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) \quad \mathbf{d}'_\alpha \left\{ (\mathbf{c}'(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) \otimes \mathbf{I}_m)E(\boldsymbol{\Omega}_t^*) - \frac{\partial \mathbf{c}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}'}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) \right\} \right],$$

$$\mathbf{d}_\alpha = E(\boldsymbol{\eta}_t \mid b(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \mathbf{c}'(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)\boldsymbol{\eta}_t = \xi_\alpha(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)),$$

$\boldsymbol{\Omega}_t^*$ and \mathbf{C}_t are matrices involving the derivatives of $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t$ and \mathbf{m}_t .

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Two univariate approaches

- **Naive approach**: estimate a univariate GARCH model on the series of portfolio returns.
Generally invalid due to the time-varying combination of the individual returns.
- **Virtual Historical Simulation (VHS)**: reconstitute a "virtual portfolio" whose returns are built using the **current composition** of the portfolio.

Invalidity of the naive univariate approach

- For **crystallized portfolios** ($\mu_{i,t-1} = \mu_i, \forall i, \forall t$), in general

$$P(\mathbf{a}_{t-1} \in \{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_m\}) \rightarrow 1 \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty.$$

The composition tends to be totally undiversified, but is not always close to the same single-asset composition \mathbf{e}_i .

► Illustration of the nonstationarity

In general, the naive method based on a **fixed stationary model** for r_t will produce poor results.

- For **static portfolios** ($a_{i,t-1} = a_i$ for all i and t) the non stationarity issue vanishes.

However, on simulated series, multivariate models outperform univariate models for estimating the VaR's of static portfolios.

Virtual Historical Simulation

Given the current portfolio composition $\mathbf{a}_{t-1} = \mathbf{x}$, we construct a (stationary) series of **virtual returns** mimicking the current return

$$r_s^*(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}'\mathbf{y}_s \quad s \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

We have a model of the form

$$r_s^*(\mathbf{x}) = \mu_s(\mathbf{x}) + \sigma_s(\mathbf{x})u_s, \quad E_{s-1}(u_s) = 0, \quad \text{var}_{s-1}(u_s) = 1.$$

The conditional VaR thus satisfies

$$\text{VaR}_{t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r_t) = -\mu_t(\mathbf{a}_{t-1}) + \sigma_t(\mathbf{a}_{t-1})\text{VaR}_{t-1}^{(\alpha)}(u_t)$$

STEP 1: Compute the virtual returns $r_s^*(\mathbf{x})$ for $s = 1, \dots, n$.

STEP 2: Estimate $\mu_s(\mathbf{x})$ and $\sigma_s(\mathbf{x})$. Let $\hat{u}_s = \{r_s^*(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{\mu}_s(\mathbf{x})\} / \hat{\sigma}_s(\mathbf{x})$.

STEP 3: Compute the α -quantile $\xi_{n,\alpha}^u(\mathbf{x})$ of $\{\hat{u}_s, 1 \leq s \leq n\}$ and let

$$\widehat{\text{VaR}}_{VHS,t-1}^{(\alpha)}(r) = -\hat{\mu}_t(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{\sigma}_t(\mathbf{x})\xi_{n,\alpha}^u(\mathbf{x}).$$

Remarks on Step 2: estimation of a univariate model for the virtual returns

- To obtain asymptotic properties of the procedure, we make parametric assumptions on the univariate model:

$$\sigma_s(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\rho}) = \sigma(r_{s-1}^*(\mathbf{x}), r_{s-2}^*(\mathbf{x}), \dots; \boldsymbol{\rho}),$$

- In general, a multivariate GARCH-type model for \mathbf{y}_t is **not compatible** with a univariate GARCH for $r_s^*(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}'\mathbf{y}_s$.
 - Due to the fact that the conditional distribution of $r_s^*(\mathbf{x})$ is not only a function of the past virtual returns.
 - If a GARCH(1,1) is used in Step 2, it will generally be an approximation.
- Under the sphericity assumption **A1**, (u_t) is i.i.d.

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 - On dynamic portfolios
 - On portfolios of exchange rates
 - Appendix

Simulation designs

- Different cDCC-GARCH(1,1) models for $m = 2$ assets.
- For the **Minimum variance** portfolio

▸ Designs

▸ Illustration

$$r_t^* = \epsilon_t' a_{t-1}^*, \quad a_{t-1}^* = \frac{\Sigma_t^{-2}(\theta_0)e}{e' \Sigma_t^{-2}(\theta_0)e},$$

the true conditional VaR is explicit under sphericity, and is evaluated by means of simulations otherwise.

- $N = 100$ independent simulations of the cDCC-GARCH(1,1) model.
 - First $n_1 = 1000$ observations: estimation of θ_0 + empirical quantiles of the residuals.
 - Last $n - n_1 = 1000$ simulations: comparison of the theoretical conditional VaR's of the portfolio with the three estimates (spherical, FHS and VHS methods).

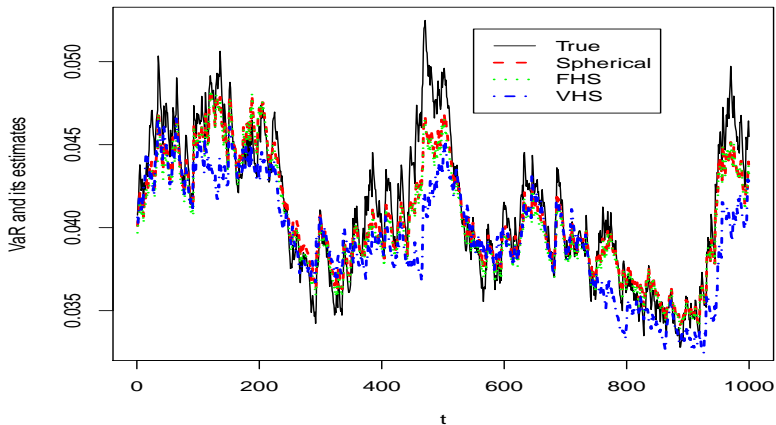
Empirical Relative Efficiency

Table: Relative efficiency of the Spherical method with respect to the FHS method (S/F) and with respect to the VHS method (S/V).

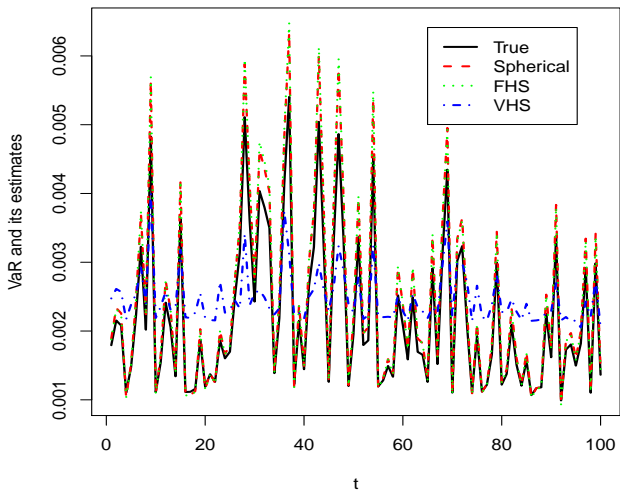
n_1	α		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	BEKK
1000	1%	S/F	1.30	1.11	2.35	1.62	1.53	1.51	1.57	1.36	1.41
		S/V	91.6	23.4	303.	79.8	1.93	2.53	4.43	2.23	8.27
	5%	S/F	1.14	1.03	2.07	1.00	1.25	1.08	1.33	1.01	1.13
		S/V	55.4	15.7	267.	82.5	1.75	2.44	4.14	2.01	8.23
1000	1%		A*	B*	C*	D*	E*	F*	G*	H*	BEKK*
		S/F	0.08	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.06	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
	S/V	2.20	2.43	2.31	1.67	0.05	0.04	0.07	0.06	0.50	
	5%	S/F	0.34	0.19	0.09	0.11	0.30	0.24	0.21	0.29	0.34
S/V		3.78	6.68	10.2	8.72	0.26	0.35	0.59	0.44	2.65	

A-H: Spherical innovations; A*-H*: Non spherical innovations

The two components follow persistent volatility models



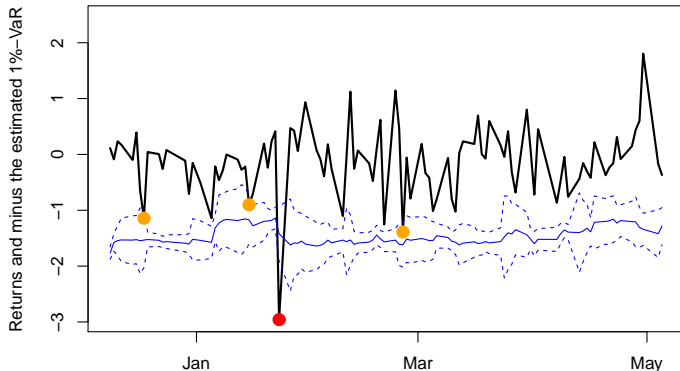
Two very different volatility models for the two components (design A)



Daily returns of exchange rates against the Euro

- Canadian Dollar (CAD), Chinese Yuan (CNY), British Pound (GBP), Japanese Yen (JPY) and US Dollar (USD).
- January 14, 2000 to May 5, 2015 ($n = 2582$).
- 2 settings
 - A BEKK model estimated over the whole sample except the last 100 returns. Equally-weighted crystalized portfolio ($\mu_i = 1$ for $i = 1, \dots, 5$). VaR estimates based on sphericity.
 - DCC GARCH(1,1) model on the first 2000 observations with estimated minimum-variance portfolio. Backtesting (unconditional coverage, independence of violations, conditional coverage).

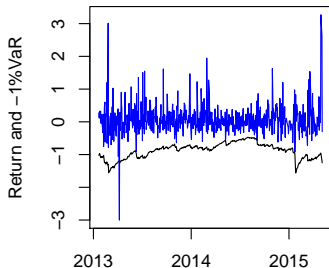
Equally-weighted portfolio of 5 exchange rates



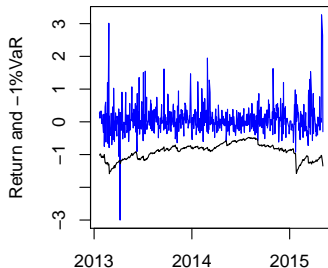
Returns for the period 09/12/2014 to 05/05/2015, estimated 1%- VaR and 95%-confidence interval based on the estimation of a BEKK model.

Minimum-variance portfolio of 5 exchange rates

Estimated Markowitz portfolio
with its S-estimated 1%-VaR



Estimated Markowitz portfolio
with its FHS-estimated 1%-VaR



Returns of estimated minimum-variance portfolios of 5 exchange rates and their estimated VaR's.

Backtests

Christoffersen (2003), Escanciano and Olmo (2010, 2011)

Table: p -values of three backtests for minimum-variance portfolios

Method	α	% of Viol	UC	IND	CC
Spherical	1%	2/582	0.065	0.906	0.182
FHS	1%	2/582	0.065	0.906	0.182
Spherical	5%	20/582	0.067	0.232	0.092
FHS	5%	18/582	0.023	0.283	0.043

Conclusions: univariate approaches

- Not always a good idea to fit a stationary **univariate GARCH model** on portfolios returns:
 - does not exploit the multivariate dynamics of the risk factors;
 - the **naive approach** (based on a **fixed stationary model**) is generally **inconsistent** when the composition of the portfolio is time-varying;
 - The **VHS approach** circumvents the non stationarity problem but
 - is generally found inefficient in simulations compared to the multivariate approaches,
 - is not necessarily simpler to implement (GARCH models have to be re-estimated at any date and for any portfolio composition),
 - does not allow to choose optimally the weights of the portfolio.

Conclusions: multivariate approaches

- For both approaches, asymptotic CIs for the conditional VaR can be built.
⇒ allows to visualize on the same graph both market and estimation risks.
- Exploiting the sphericity simplifies estimation and also gives more accurate VaRs when this assumption holds.
- The method based on sphericity may yield inconsistent VaR estimators when this assumption is in failure.
- The FHS method performs well in both cases and outperforms the first approach in the absence of sphericity.

Conclusions: multivariate approaches

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Thanks for your attention!

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Vector GARCH model

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t = \mathbf{H}_t^{1/2} \boldsymbol{\eta}_t, \quad \mathbf{H}_t \text{ positive definite, } (\boldsymbol{\eta}_t) \text{ iid } (\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$$

$$\text{vech}(\mathbf{H}_t) = \boldsymbol{\omega} + \sum_{i=1}^q \mathbf{A}^{(i)} \text{vech}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-i} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}'_{t-i}) + \sum_{j=1}^p \mathbf{B}^{(j)} \text{vech}(\mathbf{H}_{t-j})$$

- The most direct generalization of univariate GARCH
- Positivity conditions are difficult to obtain
- No explicit stationarity conditions

BEKK-GARCH model

Engle and Kroner (1995), Comte and Lieberman (2003)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t = \mathbf{H}_t^{1/2} \boldsymbol{\eta}_t, \quad (\boldsymbol{\eta}_t) \text{ iid } (\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}) \\ \mathbf{H}_t = \boldsymbol{\Omega} + \sum_{i=1}^q \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{A}_{ik} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-i} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}'_{t-i} \mathbf{A}'_{ik} + \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{B}_{jk} \mathbf{H}_{t-j} \mathbf{B}'_{jk} \end{array} \right.$$

- Coefficients of a BEKK representation are difficult to interpret
- Positivity conditions are simple. Identifiability of a BEKK representation requires additional constraints.
- Stationarity conditions exist (Boussama, Fuchs, Stelzer, 2011) but no explicit solution can be exhibited

Constant Conditional Correlation (CCC) model

Bollerslev (1990); Extended CCC by Jeantheau (1998)

$$\underline{h}_t = \begin{pmatrix} h_{11,t} \\ \vdots \\ h_{mm,t} \end{pmatrix}, \quad D_t = \text{diag} \left(h_{11,t}^{1/2}, \dots, h_{mm,t}^{1/2} \right), \quad \underline{\epsilon}_t = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_{1t}^2 \\ \vdots \\ \epsilon_{mt}^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\begin{cases} \epsilon_t = H_t^{1/2} \eta_t, & H_t = D_t R D_t, \quad R: \text{correlation matrix} \\ \underline{h}_t = \omega + \sum_{i=1}^q A_i \underline{\epsilon}_{t-i} + \sum_{j=1}^p B_j \underline{h}_{t-j} \end{cases}$$

- Simple conditions ensuring the positive definiteness of H_t .
- Explicit stationarity condition (of the form $\gamma < 0 \dots$)
- The assumption of CCC can be too restrictive

Dynamic Conditional Correlation (DCC) model

Engle (2002)

$$H_t = D_t R_t D_t, \quad R_t = (\text{diag } Q_t)^{-1/2} Q_t (\text{diag } Q_t)^{-1/2},$$

where $\boldsymbol{\eta}_t^* = D_t^{-1} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t$ and

$$Q_t = (1 - \alpha - \beta)S + \alpha \boldsymbol{\eta}_{t-1}^* \boldsymbol{\eta}_{t-1}^{*'} + \beta Q_{t-1},$$

where $\alpha, \beta \geq 0, \alpha + \beta < 1$, S is a correlation matrix

- The existence of strictly stationary solution is a complex issue (recent PhD thesis by Malongo, 2014)
- No asymptotic theory of estimation exists
- Incorrect interpretation of S as $\text{Var}(\boldsymbol{\eta}_t^*)$ and Q_t as $\text{Var}_{t-1}(\boldsymbol{\eta}_t^*)$.

Dynamic Conditional Correlation (DCC) model

Corrected DCC (Aielli (2013))

$$\mathbf{Q}_t = (1 - \alpha - \beta)\mathbf{S} + \alpha\mathbf{Q}_{t-1}^{*1/2}\boldsymbol{\eta}_{t-1}^*\boldsymbol{\eta}_{t-1}^{*'}\mathbf{Q}_{t-1}^{*1/2} + \beta\mathbf{Q}_{t-1},$$

where $\mathbf{Q}_t^* = \text{diag}(\mathbf{Q}_t)$.

- Identifiability constraint: $\text{diag}(\mathbf{S}) = \mathbf{I}_m$.
- Parsimony but the $m(m-1)/2$ conditional correlations have the same dynamic structure.

◀ Return

Example: Linear SRE on the derivatives of H_t

BEKK-GARCH(1,1) model:

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t = \mathbf{H}_t^{1/2} \boldsymbol{\eta}_t, \quad \mathbf{H}_t = \mathbf{C}_0 + \mathbf{A}_0 \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-1} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}'_{t-1} \mathbf{A}'_0 + \mathbf{B}_0 \mathbf{H}_{t-1} \mathbf{B}'_0$$

Let $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\text{vec}(\mathbf{A})', \text{vec}(\mathbf{B})', \text{vec}(\mathbf{C})')'$. For $j = 1, \dots, 3d$,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \text{vec}(\mathbf{H}_t)}{\partial \theta_j} &= \frac{\partial \text{vec}(\mathbf{C})}{\partial \theta_j} + \frac{\partial (\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{A})}{\partial \theta_j} \text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t \boldsymbol{\epsilon}'_t) \\ &\quad + \frac{\partial (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{B})}{\partial \theta_j} \text{vec}(\mathbf{H}_{t-1}) + (\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{B}) \frac{\partial \text{vec}(\mathbf{H}_{t-1})}{\partial \theta_j}, \end{aligned}$$

allows to compute recursively the derivatives of \mathbf{H}_t (for some initial values).

We note that $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t}{\partial \theta_i} + \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t}{\partial \theta_i} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t = \frac{\partial \mathbf{H}_t}{\partial \theta_i}$. Thus

$$(\mathbf{I}_m \otimes \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t \otimes \mathbf{I}_m) \text{vec} \left(\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t}{\partial \theta_i} \right) = \text{vec} \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{H}_t}{\partial \theta_i} \right).$$

Example

An equally weighted portfolio of 3 assets:

$$V_t = \sum_{i=1}^3 p_{it}.$$

The vector of the log-returns

$$\mathbf{y}_t \sim \text{iid } \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{DRD}),$$

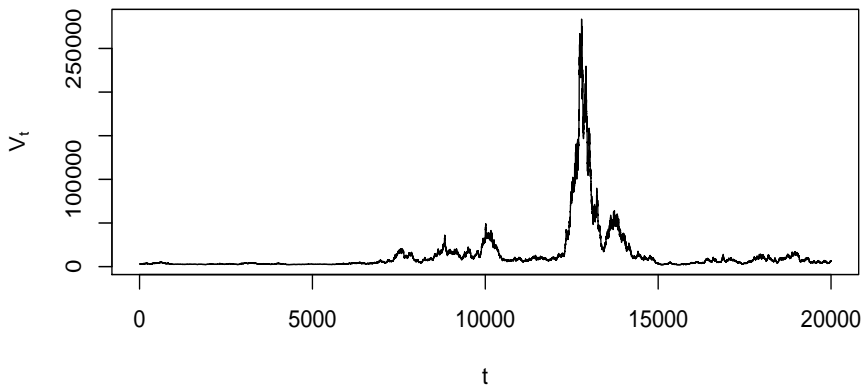
with

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.01 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.02 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.04 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -0.855 & 0.855 \\ -0.855 & 1 & -0.810 \\ 0.855 & -0.810 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The composition of the **log-return portfolio** is **not constant**:

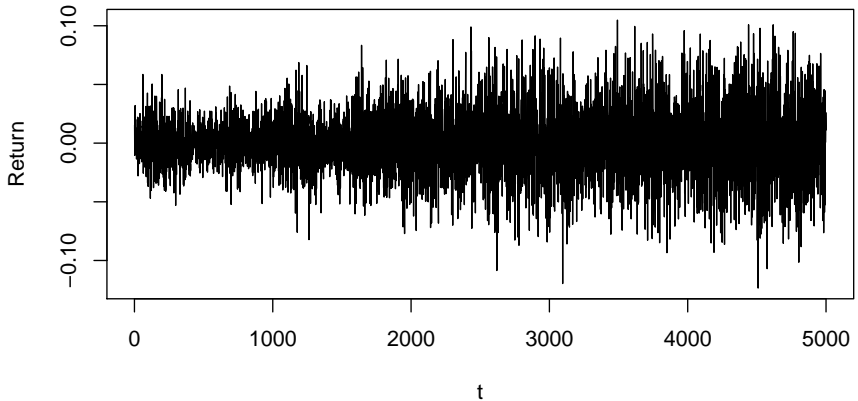
$$a_{i,t-1} = \frac{p_{i,t-1}}{\sum_{j=1}^3 p_{j,t-1}}.$$

A trajectory of (V_t)



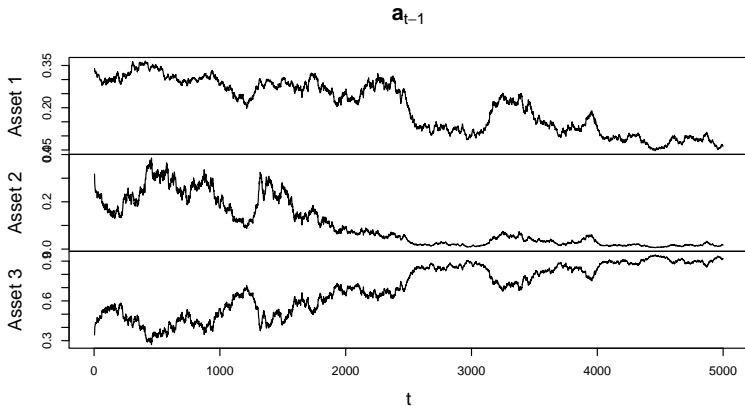
The process (V_t) is non stationary.

A trajectory of (r_t)



The return process (r_t) (also non stationary)

Time-varying composition of the portfolio



Time-varying composition of the portfolio

DCC-GARCH model for the individual returns

$$\begin{cases} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t \boldsymbol{\eta}_t, & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t^2 = \mathbf{D}_t \mathbf{R}_t \mathbf{D}_t, & \mathbf{D}_t^2 = \text{diag}(\underline{\mathbf{h}}_t), \\ \underline{\mathbf{h}}_t = \boldsymbol{\omega}_0 + \mathbf{A}_0 \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_{t-1} + \mathbf{B}_0 \underline{\mathbf{h}}_{t-1}, & \underline{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_t = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_{1t}^2 \\ \vdots \\ \epsilon_{mt}^2 \end{pmatrix} \end{cases}$$

where \mathbf{B}_0 is diagonal, and the correlation \mathbf{R}_t follows the cDCC model (Engle (2002), Aielli (2013))

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{R}_t &= \mathbf{Q}_t^{*-1/2} \mathbf{Q}_t \mathbf{Q}_t^{*-1/2}, \\ \mathbf{Q}_t &= (1 - \alpha_0 - \beta_0) \mathbf{S}_0 + \alpha_0 \mathbf{Q}_{t-1}^{*1/2} \boldsymbol{\eta}_{t-1}^* \boldsymbol{\eta}_{t-1}^{*'} \mathbf{Q}_{t-1}^{*1/2} + \beta_0 \mathbf{Q}_{t-1}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha_0, \beta_0 \geq 0, \alpha_0 + \beta_0 < 1$, \mathbf{S}_0 is a correlation matrix, \mathbf{Q}_t^* is the diagonal matrix with the same diagonal elements as \mathbf{Q}_t , and $\boldsymbol{\eta}_t^* = \mathbf{D}_t^{-1} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t$.

Designs of the numerical experiments

Table: Design of Monte Carlo experiments.

	ω'_0	$(\text{vec}A_0)'$	$\text{diag}B_0$	$S_0(1,2)$	α	β	P_η
A	$(10^{-6}, 4 \times 10^{-6})$	(0.01, 0.01, 0.01, 0.07)	(0, 0.92)	0.7	0.04	0.95	$\mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_2)$
B	$(10^{-6}, 4 \times 10^{-6})$	(0.01, 0.01, 0.01, 0.07)	(0, 0.92)	0.7	0.04	0.95	$\mathcal{S}t_7$
C	$(10^{-6}, 4 \times 10^{-6})$	(0.01, 0.01, 0.01, 0.07)	(0, 0.92)	0	0	0	$\mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_2)$
D	$(10^{-6}, 4 \times 10^{-6})$	(0.01, 0.01, 0.01, 0.07)	(0, 0.92)	0	0	0	$\mathcal{S}t_7$
E	$(10^{-5}, 10^{-5})$	(0.07, 0.00, 0.00, 0.07)	(0.92, 0.92)	0.7	0.04	0.95	$\mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_2)$
F	$(10^{-5}, 10^{-5})$	(0.07, 0.00, 0.00, 0.07)	(0.92, 0.92)	0.7	0.04	0.95	$\mathcal{S}t_7$
G	$(10^{-5}, 10^{-5})$	(0.07, 0.00, 0.00, 0.07)	(0.92, 0.92)	0	0	0	$\mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_2)$
H	$(10^{-5}, 10^{-5})$	(0.07, 0.00, 0.00, 0.07)	(0.92, 0.92)	0	0	0	$\mathcal{S}t_7$

Designs A*-H* are the same as Designs A-H, except that P_η follows an asymmetric AEPD (introduced by Zhu and Zinde-Walsh (2009)).

◀ Numerical experiments